The LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS

Information Bulletin

Vol. 57, No. 10 October 1998

Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture

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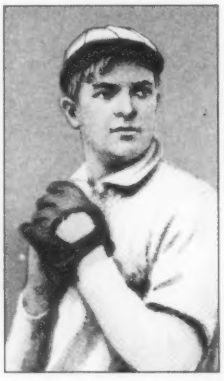
JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress



248

250

257

258

On the Cover: Sigmund Freud, the subject of a major new exhibition opening Oct. 15 in the Northwest Gallery of the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building. "Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture" explores the influence of Freud and psychoanalysis on 20th century culture, drawing on the Library's collection of more than 80,000 Freud items.

Cover Story: The curator of "Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture" offers an overview of the exhibition. Also, the Library will present a film series in conjunction with the exhibition. 250

Havel Visits: Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech Republic, visited the Library on the eve of the Sept. 18 opening of "The Birth of Czechoslovakia: October 1918," an exhibition commemorating the 80th anniversary of the founding of the independent Czechoslovak state. 247

Play Ball: More than 2,100 baseball cards from 1887-1914, depicting some of the most famous players in the sport, are now on view at the Library's American Memory Web site. 248

Next-Generation Talking Books: The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) has established a committee to oversee the development of a new digital audio technology for America's talking-book program. 255

Legal Technology: A task force of law librarians will examine the effect of technology on legal documentation. 256

The Future of Copyright: The Copyright Office has released on report on the future of copyright in a networked world. 256

The Novelist-Philosopher of Cairo: The work of Najib Mahfuz, Egypt's foremost writer and novelist, was discussed in a Sept. 10 lecture at the Library by Menahem Milson. 257

News from the Center for the Book 258

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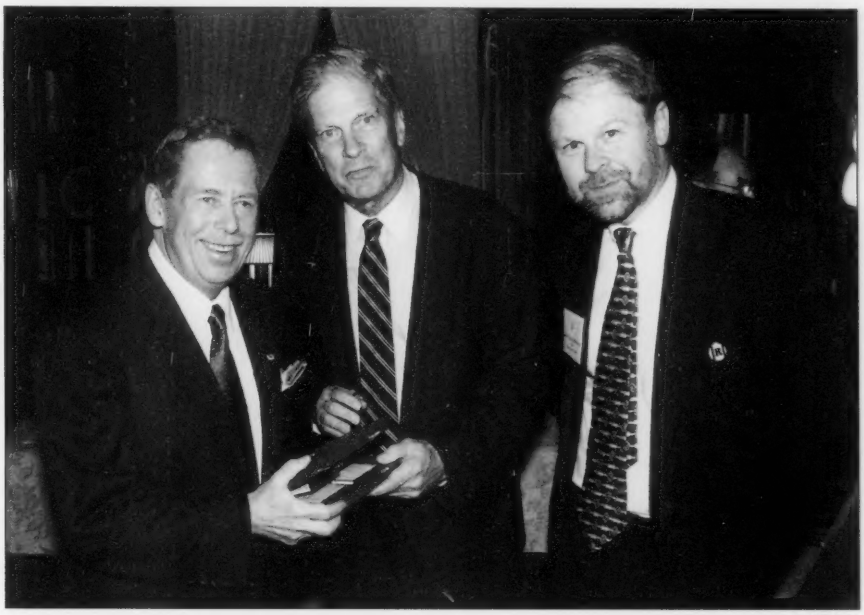


Yusef El-Amin

During a Sept. 17 visit to the Library, Czech President and playwright Vaclav Havel (left) presents Dr. Billington and European Division Chief John Van Oudenaren with selected recordings of his plays which Mr. Havel read aloud while a dissident.

Vaclav Havel Visits the Library

LC Opens Exhibition Honoring Czech Independence

BY AUDREY FISCHER

Czech President Vaclav Havel visited the Library on the eve of the Sept. 18 opening of an exhibition commemorating the 80th anniversary of the founding of the independent Czechoslovak state. The opening of the exhibition marked the beginning of "the month of the Czech Republic" in Washington.

"Every month should be the month of the Czech Republic," said Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who was on hand for the festivities, organized jointly by the Library of Congress and the Embassy of the Czech Republic. As a Czech-American, Ms. Albright thanked "dissident and dreamer" Mr. Havel for restoring a sense of pride in her homeland. Mr. Havel, who played a central role in the 1989 "Velvet Revolution" against communist rule and was periodically imprisoned, was elected earlier this year to his second five-year term as Czech president.

"Ten years ago, I was an enemy of my state and an abandoned playwright," said Mr. Havel in summing up the remarkable series of events in his country during the past decade. "I never dreamt I would be president at the time of the 80th anniversary of the Czech Republic."

Mr. Havel also could not have imagined that in 1991 he would receive the original 1918 Czechoslovakia Declaration of Independence in the hand of Thomas Masaryk (first president of Czechoslovakia, 1918-1935) as a gift from the Library of Congress to the Czech Republic.

"Masaryk looked especially to our own Declaration of Independence and to Thomas Jefferson for guidance," said Dr. Billington. "It is therefore especially appropriate that we mark these events in the newly restored Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress — a library that was built around Thomas Jefferson's personal library."

Many of the items featured in the exhibition are from the hand of President Woodrow Wilson and his secretary of state, Robert Lansing, both of whom were strong supporters of the new state. "These items document the link that America has had with the struggle for independence of the Czech and Slovak peoples," said Dr. Billington.

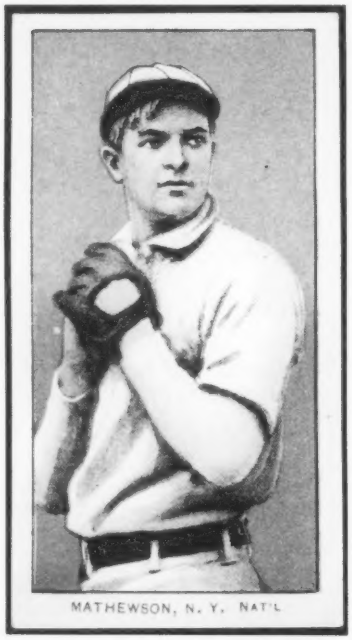
Alexandr Vondra, Czech ambassador to the United States, also underscored the appropriateness of commemorating this event at "this outstanding institution," and he thanked the Librarian and the United States for recognizing the significance of the 80th anniversary.

continued on page 249

Boston's Smoky Joe Wood and Tris Speaker in a triptych, whose center photograph, "Close at Third," shows Speaker sliding into Cleveland Indians third baseman Terry Turner. This card and more than 2,100 others are available for viewing on-line at the Library's American Memory site at www.loc.gov/.

2,100 Early Baseball Cards On-Line

Ty Cobb, Cy Young and Connie Mack Available

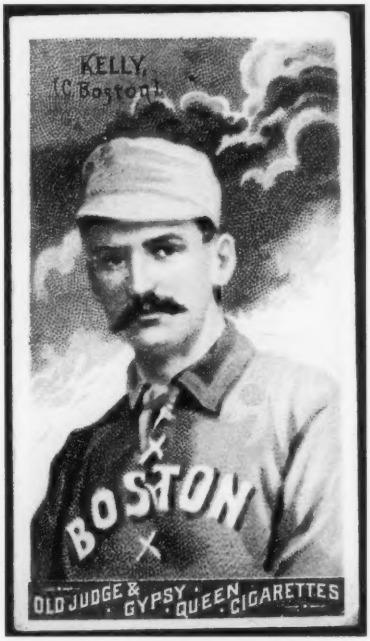


New York pitcher Christy Mathewson in a card produced for Piedmont cigarettes, 1909-11

More than 2,100 baseball cards, depicting some of the most famous players in the sport, are now on view at the Library of Congress American Memory Web site at www.loc.gov/.

The cards show such legendary figures as Ty Cobb stealing third base for Detroit, Tris Speaker batting for Boston and pitcher Cy Young posing formally in his Cleveland uniform. Other notable players include Connie Mack, Walter Johnson, King Kelly, and Christy Mathewson.

The images can be seen in the "Baseball Cards, 1887-1914" collection. Baseball cards first became popular in the 1880s when tobacco companies used them to stiffen the small, soft cigarette packages and promote sales. Although the cards vary in design and format, most are 1½ by 2⅝ inches, much smaller than today's sports trading cards. Issued either as black-and-white photographs or color prints, they portray the ballplayers both in action scenes and formal poses.



Catcher King Kelly of Boston in a card produced for Old Judge and Gypsy Queen cigarettes, 1888

Havel
continued from page 247

An important part of the evening was a "Presentation of Orders" by President Havel honoring "those men and women who have kept alive those ideals which underlay a free Czechoslovakia." Honorees included Gen. John M.D. Shalikashvili, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; former United Nations Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick; George Kovtun, the Library's Czech and Slovak area specialist and curator of the current exhibition; and former national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski.

"I am honored to receive this award from the hands of Havel," said Brzezinski. "He is a relevant teacher who reminds us that selfish freedom is an oxymoron. Freedom must be for everyone. Modernity without morality is not a democracy, but decay."

During his visit, President Havel enriched the collections of the Library with a gift of recordings featuring four of his plays, read in his own voice while still a dissident. He also autographed a few of the 101 books by or about him that are in the Library's collections.

"The Birth of Czechoslovakia: October 18" will be on view in the Great Hall of the Thomas Jefferson Building Sept. 18 through Dec. 26. The exhibition will be digitized and made accessible worldwide on Library's Web site at www.loc.gov/. A seminar on the legacy of Thomas Masaryk will be held at the Library on Oct. 8.

Ms. Fischer is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office.

Yusef El-Amin

Czech President Vaclav Havel (center) discusses with Dr. Billington one of his books, recently acquired by the Library. Afterwards, Mr. Havel presented an award to the Library's Czech and Slovak area specialist George Kovtun (left).

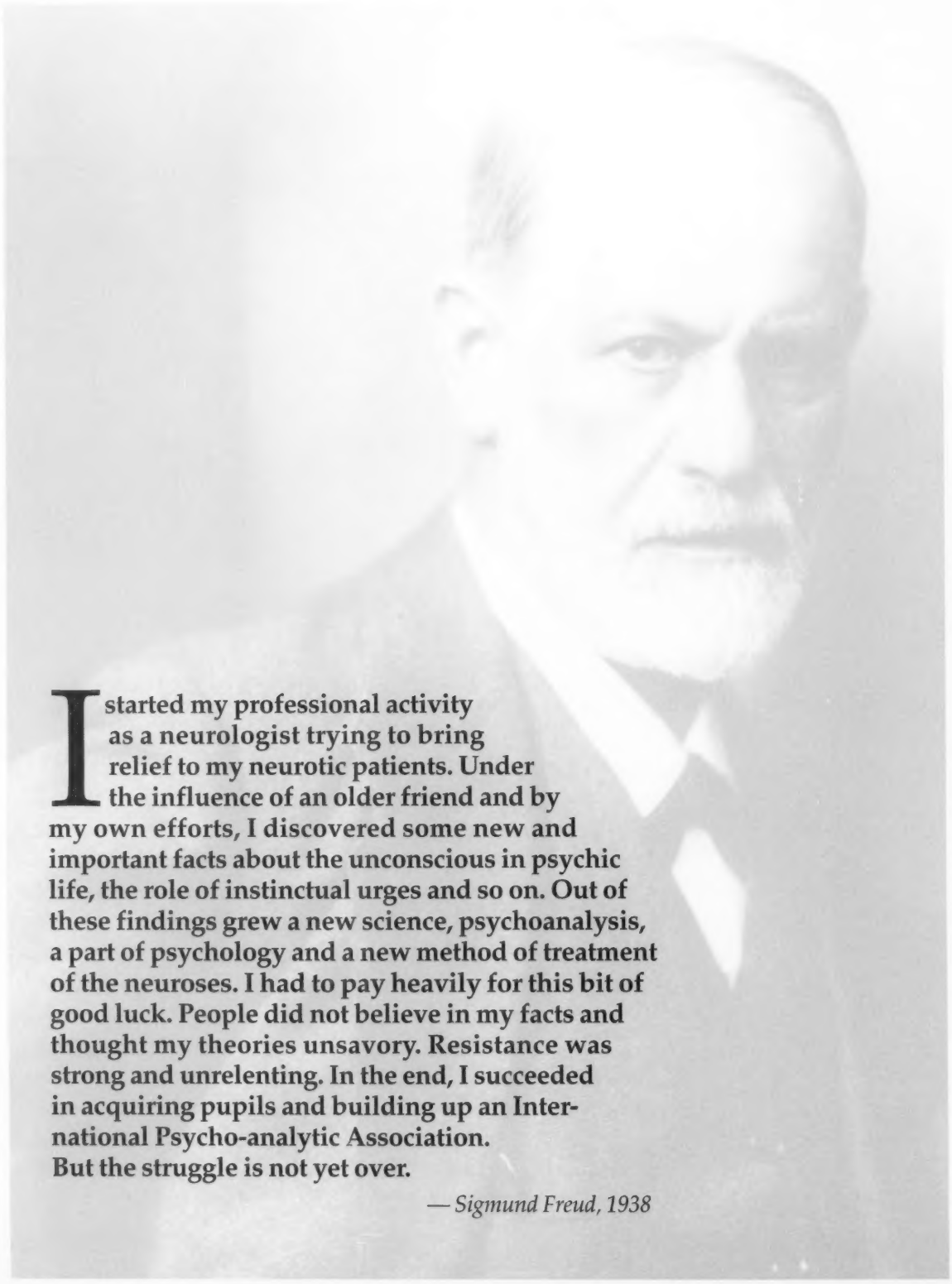
Cigarette card collector Benjamin K. Edwards preserved these baseball cards in albums with more than 12,000 other cards on many subjects. After his death, Edwards's daughter gave the albums to noted poet and Lincoln biographer Carl Sandburg, who donated them to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division in 1954. This collection is offered in celebration of Major League Baseball's 1998 World Series.

A Special Presentation, called "Tinker to Evers to Chance!," relates how Chicago Cubs infielders Joe Tinker, Johnny Evers and Frank Chance formed the most memorable double-play combination in the history of baseball. Their consistently solid fielding and hitting led the Cubs to four National League pennants (1906-08, 1910) and two World Series wins (1907-08). The Hall of Fame inducted all three simultaneously in 1946. In 1910, New York newspaper columnist Franklin Pierce Adams immortalized the three ballplayers in a short verse titled "Baseball's Sad Lexicon." His poem laments the repeated success of the Chicago Cubs and their celebrated infield against Adams's beloved National League rivals, the New York Giants.

The Library's collection of rare and early baseball cards includes the earliest known card, on display in the permanent exhibition "American Treasures of the Library of Congress" and also on view in the on-line exhibition of the same name. A related electronic collection, "By Popular Demand: Jackie Robinson and Other Baseball Highlights, 1860s-1960s," includes materials that tell the story of the pioneering Robinson in particular and the history of baseball in general.

American Memory is a project of the National Digital Library Program, which, in collaboration with other major repositories, will make available on-line millions of materials relating to American history by the year 2000, the bicentennial of the Library of Congress.

More than 40 collections are now available in media ranging from photographs, manuscripts and maps to motion pictures, sound recordings and presidential papers. Recently made available is a collection of famous and never-before-seen photographs from the Farm Security Administration and Office of War Information in "America from the Great Depression to World War II: Photos from the FSA-OWI, 1935-1945."



I started my professional activity as a neurologist trying to bring relief to my neurotic patients. Under the influence of an older friend and by my own efforts, I discovered some new and important facts about the unconscious in psychic life, the role of instinctual urges and so on. Out of these findings grew a new science, psychoanalysis, a part of psychology and a new method of treatment of the neuroses. I had to pay heavily for this bit of good luck. People did not believe in my facts and thought my theories unsavory. Resistance was strong and unrelenting. In the end, I succeeded in acquiring pupils and building up an International Psycho-analytic Association. But the struggle is not yet over.

— Sigmund Freud, 1938

Conflict and Culture

Library Exhibition Surveys Influence of Freud

Following is an article by the curator of a new major Library exhibition, "Freud: Conflict and Culture." The exhibition features more than 170 vintage photographs, prints, films, manuscript letters, documents and first editions of many publications from the Library's collection of more than 80,000 Freud items, primarily donated over the past four decades by the Sigmund Freud Archives. These materials are supplemented with loans from the Freud Museum in London, the Sigmund Freud-Museum in Vienna and other important collections. A review panel of leading scholars and consultants in the fields of cultural and intellectual history and psychoanalysis helped shape the exhibition.

BY MICHAEL S. ROTH

Few figures have had so decisive and fundamental an influence on modern cultural history as has Sigmund Freud. Yet few figures also have inspired such sustained controversy and intense debate.

Freud's legacy continues to be hotly contested. Our notions of identity, memory, childhood, sexuality and, most generally, of meaning have been shaped in relation to, and often in opposition to, Freud's work. This exhibition, having attracted controversy even before its opening, examines Freud's life and his key ideas and their effect upon the 20th century.

The exhibition features vintage photographs, prints, manuscripts and first editions. Also displayed are home movies of Freud and objects from his study and consulting room—including materials from his desk, the chair in which he sat when listening to patients, a model of his consulting couch, and pieces from his own collection of antiquities. Selected film and television clips, and materials from newspapers, magazines and comic books are interwoven throughout the exhibition to highlight the pervasive influence of psychoanalysis on popular culture.

The exhibition is composed of three major sections: "Formative Years," begins in late-19th century Vienna, the milieu of Freud's early professional development. "The Individual: Therapy and Theory" examines key psychoanalytic concepts and how Freud used them in some of his most famous cases. "From the Individual to Society" focuses on the diffusion of psychoanalytic ideas and Freud's speculations about the origins of society, the social functions of religion and art and how crises reveal fundamental aspects of human nature. Throughout the exhibition words and images, often contentious, sometimes humorous, attest to the impact of Freud's ideas on the 20th century.

Freud with his mother, Amalia, in her apartment in Vienna, May 5, 1925

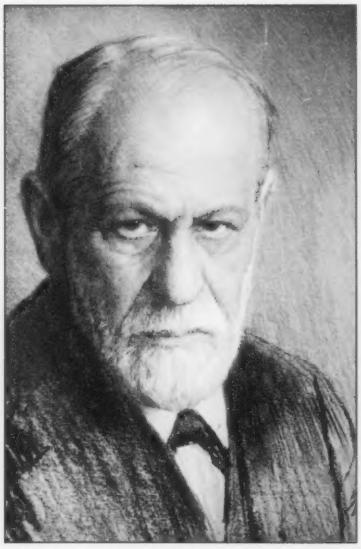
Formative Years

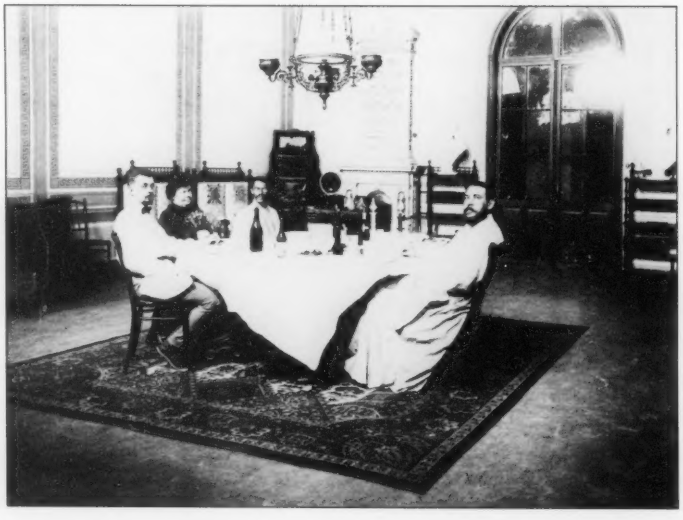
Sigismund Schlomo Freud was born on May 6, 1856, in the small town of Freiberg, now part of the Czech Republic. In 1860, the family settled in Vienna, where Sigmund, as he came to call himself, received an education emphasizing classical literature and philosophy — an education that would serve him well in developing his theories and conveying them to a wide audience. The cultural ferment, ethnic tensions and class conflict of fin-de-siècle Vienna were part of Freud's daily existence. The city was a hothouse for radical innovations in politics, philosophy and the arts. Freud chose to concentrate on research in neurology, a field in which the frontiers of knowledge were changing dramatically. Eventually, financial concerns led him to pursue clinical work with patients. His analyses of patients and of himself became the chief sources for his professional writings.

The Individual: Therapy and Theory

Like many doctors, writers and philosophers working at the end of the 19th century, Freud grew increasingly interested in the unconscious. He saw the unconscious as a dimension of human life at once inaccessible and important as a source of thoughts and actions. In his efforts to decipher the meanings of hysterical symptoms and other neglected mental phenomena that seemed beyond conscious control (dreams, slips of the tongue), Freud moved further away from his neurological training. Committed to the idea that such apparently meaningless behavior actually expressed unconscious conflict, he developed techniques for determining what the behavior might mean. This section of the exhibition — divided into six parts — introduces some of Freud's most famous patients and the key concepts he used to try to make sense of their symptoms and their lives.

Anna O. — Hypnosis to Free Association. Freud's interest in what lay beyond conscious life and in hypnotism and hysteria led him to study with the famous neurologist Jean-Martin Charcot of the Salpêtrière Hospital in Paris. When Freud returned to Vienna, he began using hypnosis, massage and pressure on the head to get patients to dredge up thoughts related to their symptoms. Only later did he ask them





A portrait of Sigmund Freud by Ferdinand Schmutzer, 1926, courtesy of the Freud Museum, London; Freud (seventh from left) during his only visit to the United States in a series of lectures at Clark University in 1909. Carl Jung stands to the right of him — photo courtesy of the Freud Museum, London; Freud's famous analytic couch; Sergei Pankejeff, the "Wolf Man" (right) and his family in Odessa

to say whatever crossed their minds. This he called free association, what the patient called Anna O. had already labeled the "talking cure."

Rat Man, Wolf Man — Interpretation. For Freud, interpretation was necessary to give meaning to the apparently random thoughts of free association. Freud's focus was on reading the obscure language of the unconscious, and he developed techniques of interpretation in order to do so. In the cases known as Rat Man and Wolf Man, he wove together elaborate stories, explanations and speculations to make sense out of constellations of symptoms that seemed impossibly puzzling. These case histories, written for colleagues, read like detective novels in which the analyst deciphers the significance of symptoms as if they are clues.

Dora and H.D. — Transference. Freud used the concepts of transference and countertransference to refer to the strong emotions that are projected by the patient onto the doctor and the doctor onto the patient. A transference — such as treating an analyst like one's father — might promote therapeutic work, but Freud was also aware that this could distort a patient's (and an analyst's) perspective. Given that an analysis might seem successful entirely because it *felt* that way, Freud (and his critics) wanted to know how to determine if it had *in fact* produced true

insight. This influence of patient/doctor emotions on analysis has been key to understanding the cases of Ida Bauer, whom Freud called Dora, and the poet Hilda Doolittle, who called herself H.D.

Dreams and Everyday Life. Freud understood dreams (like jokes, slips of the tongue, and other symptoms) to be signs of concealed, conflicting desires. He considered powerful desires to be always in conflict, and his theories tried to account for how these conflicts give rise to unintentional expression. Dreams and other unconscious acts conceal even as they reveal wishes that we would rather not face more directly.

Repression. Repression is Freud's term for the mechanism that turns our unacceptable desires away from us. These unruly desires are repressed and made inaccessible to our thinking. The unconscious and, later, the id, are the names Freud used for this realm of inaccessibility. Our repressed desires, according to psychoanalysis, only appear to us disguised as dreams, symptoms and other seemingly incoherent, uncontrolled actions.

Sex and Aggression. For Freud, sexual desires conflict with one another, with social conventions and, most critically, with reality. He saw them as fundamental, yet never fully satisfied. We desire what we do not have or what we feel we have lost, and these unsatisfied desires find expression in the surprising, sometimes disturbing, ways.

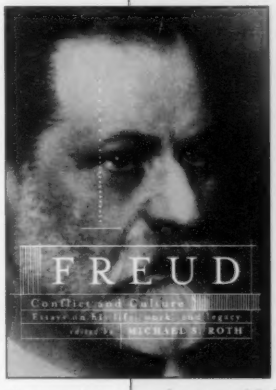
After World War I, Freud paid increasing attention to the phenomenon of aggression. He speculated that a death drive was as important as the sexual instinct in our psychic constitutions. He saw the basic conflict in our lives as that between Eros and Thanatos, Love and Death — a conflict never to be resolved, but one that has fateful consequences in daily life and in world events.

"From the Individual to Society"

As Freud's sphere of inquiry expanded to include the basic questions of moral and political life, he inspired intellectuals and artists to take his theories about conflict, desire and the unconscious into new areas. These ideas seemed to many to open promising new avenues for understanding the successes and failures of modern society. Others thought that these routes led straight to deception or worse.

In the first part of this section, the exhibition presents artifacts from the professional expansion of psychoanalysis and the critical reaction to that expansion. Next, the exhibition examines Freud's theories of society, from his speculation on its origins to his views of the contemporary world. The violent crises that shook the world at the end of Freud's life are the subject of the final part of this section.

Expansion and Criticism. The vigorous expansion of psychoanalysis in Freud's own lifetime — from the early days of his Wednesday Society in Vienna to the founding of the International Psychoanalytic Association — was accompanied and challenged by criticism equally vigorous. As he sought to protect his ideas through institutionalization and theoretical orthodoxy, analysts with whom he disagreed were sometimes treated as dissidents or even heretics. As psychoanalysis rapidly spread within medicine (especially in the United States) and to other forms of therapy, the social sciences, art, literature, and popular culture, the criticisms of Freud's ideas and his practices kept pace. In the face of controversy Freud was mindful of creating and controlling his intellectual legacy. He attempted to do this in writings about the origins of his own concepts and of the movement he founded.



Origins. Freud saw that society creates mechanisms to ensure social control of human instincts. At the root of these controlling mechanisms, he thought, is the prohibition against incest. He further speculated that this taboo had its genesis in the guilt stemming from the murder of a powerful patriarch. After the tyrannical father is killed, the sons continue to follow the dictates with which they had always lived. For Freud, the past is not something that can be outgrown by either the individual or society but rather is something that remains a vital and often disruptive part of existence. The emphasis on history as being alive in

CONFLICT FREUD & CULTURE

"Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture" will be on view Oct. 15 through Jan. 16 in the Northwest Curtain of the Thomas Jefferson Building. The online preview of the exhibition is at www.loc.gov/. The exhibition will travel through May 2000 to the Jewish Museum in New York, the Sigmund Freud-Museum and the Austrian National Library in Vienna, and the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles.

"Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture" was organized by the Library of Congress, in cooperation with the Sigmund Freud-Museum in Vienna and the Freud Museum, London.

The Library of Congress, in cooperation with Alfred A. Knopf, has published a companion book in conjunction with the exhibition that comprises a wide range of views about psychoanalysis and its place in contemporary culture. Contributors include Harold Blum, José Brunner, Frank Cioffi, Robert Coles, Hannah Decker, Muriel Dimen, John Forrester, Peter Gay, Ilse Grubrich-Simitis, Adolf Grunbaum, E. Ann Kaplan, Peter Kramer, Edith Kurzweil, Patrick Mahony, Michael Molnar, Michael Roth, Oliver Sacks, Art Spiegelman and John Toews.

Funding for this exhibition was provided by Discovery Communications Inc.; the Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Vienna; the Austrian Cultural Institute, New York; Alfred A. Knopf; the James Madison Council of the Library of Congress; the Mary S. Sigourney Award Trust, New York; Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Altshuler; the Charles A. Dana Foundation, New York; the Ministry of Science and Transport, Austria; the American Psychoanalytic Foundation; the Lotte Köhler Foundation; Austrian Airlines; Österreichische Lotterien; Hoffman-La Roche Inc.; O.S. Wyatt Jr., Houston; the Embassy of Austria; the New-Land Foundation, New York; Peter Sobolak, Vienna; and private contributors.

Freud en route to exile in London, with Princess Marie Bonaparte and William Bullitt, Paris, June 13, 1938

the present is a central theme in psychoanalytic approaches to the individual and society.

Problems of Culture. Freud understood culture, as he did dreams and symptoms, as an expression of desires in conflict with one another and with society. Religion, art and science could be richly rewarding. But he emphasized that culture is the product of impulses denied a more directly sexual or aggressive satisfaction. If these cultural practices fail to alleviate the conflicts at the heart of the human psyche, what then, Freud asked, are the consequences for the individual? If forms of social life fail to meet basic psychological needs, what are the social consequences of these unfulfilled desires? These remained for Freud the vital questions about the relation between civilization and ourselves.

Crises. Freud thought that social life originated in unresolvable conflicts and, hence, that civilization was always vulnerable to radical disruptions. From World War I until his death in 1939, he witnessed increasingly violent social crises that he took to be irrational "symptoms" of these primal conflicts. Seemingly senseless wars, escalating antisemitism and the threat of Nazi domination were all interpreted by Freud in terms of his model of psychological conflict.

Film Series Complements 'Freud' Exhibition

The Library will present a film series in conjunction with the "Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture" to be shown in the Library's Mary Pickford Theater, third floor of the Madison Building. Programs, which are subject to change, begin at 7 p.m. except where noted. Admission is free, but reservations must be made in advance by calling (202) 707-5677.

Oct. 15 *Freud* (Universal, 1962, 120 min.), **6:30 p.m.**

Oct. 20 *Secrets of the Soul,* (Neumann Film/UFA, 1926, 95 min.)

Oct. 21 *The Escaped Lunatic* (American Mutoscope & Biograph, 1904, 8 min.) followed by *King of Hearts* (United Artists, 1966, 102 min.)

Oct. 22 *Spellbound* (Selznick Productions, 1945, 111 min.)

Oct. 27 *New York Stories: Oedipus Wrecks* (Warner Bros., 1989, 45 min.) followed by *Schmoedipus* (BBC, 1974, 67 min.)

Oct. 28 *Mia and Roman* (Paramount, 1968, 7 min.) followed by *Chinatown* (Paramount, 1974, 131 min.) **6:30 p.m.**

Oct. 29 *Hamlet* (Universal, 1948, 153 min.) **6:30 p.m.**

Nov. 3 *Taxi: Mr. Personalities* (Paramount, 1981, 25 min.) and *The Seventh Veil* (Universal, 1945, 95 min.)

Nov. 4 *The Hypnotist's Revenge* (American Mutoscope and Biograph, 1903, 10 min.) followed by *Woody Woodpecker: Hypnotic Hick* (Universal, 1953, 8 min.) and *Deluxe Annie* (Select Films, 1918, 79 min.)

Nov. 5 *Un Chien Andalou* (Luis Buñuel, 1929, 24 min.) followed by Eraserhead (Libra Films, 1978, 90 min.)

Nov. 10 Freud Home Movies

Nov. 12 *Face to Face* (Paramount, 1976, 136 min.), **6:30 p.m.**

Nov. 17 *The Somnambulist* (American Mutoscope and Biograph, 1903, 2 min.) followed by *The Criminal Hypnotist* (American Mutoscope and Biograph, 1909, 7 min.) and *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* (Decla-Bioscop, 1919, 69 min.)

Nov. 18 *Peeping Tom* (Anglo-Amalgamated, 1960, 109 min.)

Nov. 19 *Lilith* (Columbia, 1964, 114 min.)

Nov. 24 *The Cobweb* (MOM, 1955, 124 min.)

Dec. 1 *Frasier: The Impossible Dream* (Paramount Television, 1996, 22 min.) followed by *Blind Alley* (Columbia, 1939, 71 min.)

Dec. 2 *Get Smart: All in the Mind* (Talent Associates, 1965, 25 min.) followed by *Free Love* (Universal, 1931, 70 min.)

Dec. 3 *The Case of Becky* (Paramount, 1915, 48 min.) followed by *The Dark Mirror* (Inter-John, 1946, 85 min.), **6:30 p.m.**

Dec. 8 *The Innocents* (20th Century-Fox, 1961, 100 min.)

Dec. 9 *How Old Is Ann* (Edison, 1903, 1 min.) followed by *Mesmerist and Country Couple* (Edison, 1899, 1 min.) and *Experiment Perilous* (RKO, 1944, 91 min.)

Dec. 10 *M*A*S*H: Dear Sigmund* (20th Century-Fox Television, 1976, 25 min.) followed by *Pressure Point* (United Artists, 1962, 91 min.),

Dec. 15 *The Seven Percent Solution* (Universal, 1976, 113 min.).

Dec. 16 *The Simpsons: Fear of Flying* (Gracie Films, 1994, 25 min.) followed by *Alice* (Condor-Hessisches, 1988, 84 min.)

Dec. 17 *Tender Is the Night* (20th Century-Fox, 1962, 146 min.), **6:30 p.m.**

Jan. 5 *Suddenly, Last Summer* (Columbia, 1959, 114 min.)

Jan. 6 *Bob Newhart: The Two Loves of Dr. Hartley* (MTM Enterprises, 1973, 25 min.) followed by *Deep End* (Paramount, 1970, 88 min.)

Jan. 7 *Dr. Dippy's Sanitarium* (American Mutoscope and Biograph, 1906, 9 min.) followed by *Popeye: Psychiatricks* (King Features, 1960, 5 min.) and *The Shrike* (Universal, 1955, 88 min.)

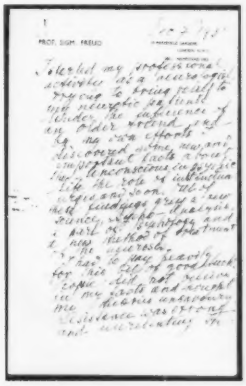
Jan. 12 *The Mark* (20th Century-Fox, 1961, 127 min.)

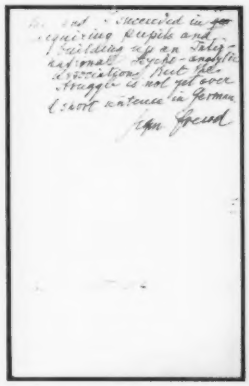
Jan. 13 *The President's Analyst* (Paramount, 1967, 104 min.)

Jan. 14 *Maude: The Analyst* (Tandem Productions, 1975, 26 min.) followed by *The Florentine Dagger* (Warner Bros., 1935, 70 min.)

Epilogue

Freud's thinking emerged in the wake of Marx and Darwin and developed in a century in which violent conflicts reached unheard-of dimensions. The conflicts that Freud stressed were within the psyche: people at war with themselves and sometimes with the cultural authorities they had internalized. But he thought that the way we managed (or failed to manage) those conflicts had everything to do with the explosions of violence that marked the modern world. Although much has changed since Freud first formulated his theories, today's concern with the violent power of sexuality and aggression has only intensified. Freud did not propose solutions to how one might escape this violence. Instead, his writings on the connection of culture and conflict identified fundamental problems for the twentieth century — problems that show no sign of disappearing as we move into the twenty-first.





The manuscript of Freud's interview statement taped for the BBC, Dec. 7, 1933, and a photo of the recording session. He spoke of his life and work and closed by stating that "the struggle is not yet over."

Dr. Roth is associate director of the Getty Research Institute for the History of Art and the Humanities. His books include Psycho-Analysis as History: Negation and Freedom in Freud; The Ironist's Cage: Memory, Trauma, and the Construction of History; *and* Freud: Conflict and Culture *in association with the Library of Congress.*

Developing Digital Audio

NLS Sets Committee for New Talking Book Technology

A committee to oversee the development of a new digital audio technology for America's talking-book program has been established by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) of the Library of Congress.

NLS Director Frank Kurt Cylke announced the multiyear Digital Audio Development Project by naming Brad Kormann, chief of the Materials Development Division, as project director and head of the executive committee. Other executive committee members are John Cookson, head, Engineering Section, and Michael Moodie, Research and Development officer. Providing communications support to the committee will be Robert Fistick, head, Publications and Media Section. A 13-member steering committee of technical, consumer and NLS network library specialists has also been named.

"The Library of Congress now embarks upon its fourth major technological advance in the provision of reading materials for blind and physically handicapped people," said Mr. Cylke. The Library began its national service of providing specialized reading materials to Americans a century ago with the introduction of braille technology. This was followed by long-playing vinyl record technology in the 1930s and by audiotape technology in the 1960s. During the 1990s, the Library has been aggressively researching and developing its plans for the fourth technological advance — to digital audio technology.

"The digital talking book will be the Library's 21st century technology and this committee will lead the project," Mr. Cylke said, announcing the project and committee.

Brad Kormann, project director, said, "It is important to remember that this new technology represents a complex and total replacement of an existing national infrastructure of playback equipment and recorded book collections valued at more than $200 million. It is vital to the success of this cooperative federal, state and local government program that appropriate attention be given to technological design that represents the broadest needs of program patrons. It was for this reason that NLS, two years ago, initiated the development of a national digital talking-book standard through the National Information Standards Organization (NISO), coordinated by Michael Moodie."

NLS issued a 72-page report in July 1998, *Digital Talking Books: Planning for the Future,* outlining both the scope of activity and steps required to develop a digital talking-book system. A series of seven articles outlines these details and discusses consumer involvement in technology planning and design. Additional copies of the report are available in braille, in large print, on recorded cassette and on computer diskette from the Reference Section, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, Washington DC 20542, telephone (202) 707-5100; fax (202) 707-0712; e-mail: nls@loc.gov.

For additional information contact: Brad Kormann, Chief, Materials Development Division, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20542; telephone (202) 707-9317; fax (202) 707-0712; e-mail: bkor@loc.gov.

The Future of Legal Documents

National Summit to Address Technology

Will future generations will be able to retrieve the primary legal documentation being stored electronically today? What is the role of decision-makers and who are the stakeholders? How can the authenticity of digital legal records be guaranteed and do they require different standards of authentication than other electronic documents?

To increase awareness of these issues among law librarians, Law Librarian of Congress Rubens Medina; Judy Meadows, immediate past president of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL); and Claire Germain, Edward Cornell law librarian at Cornell University, met Aug. 17 with members of a recently formed task force in Ithaca, N.Y., to plan a national summit conference for March 1999 in Washington to address these questions.

To broaden participation in the task force, invitations will be issued to judges, legislators, regulators, members of the practicing bar, academics, librarians and archivists, court administrators, official printers, public and private publishers, Internet providers, webmasters and computer science engineers.

Ms. Meadows and her AALL successor, James Heller, director of the law library at William and Mary College, in late June appointed members to the AALL/Law Library of Congress Task Force on Preservation and Access to Digital Legal Information. The task force will provide a forum to discuss authentication and preservation of official primary law in digital form; assist in developing standards and guidelines; convene a conference to inform other stakeholders of the work of the task force and discuss proposed standards and policy guidelines; present to the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) suggested standards; and serve as a resource for NISO as it studies the issues.

Other task force members attending the planning session were Marie-Louise Bernal of the Law Library of Congress, Carol Billings of the State Law Library of Louisiana, Richard Danner of Duke University School of Law, Jay Greco of Cornell Law School, Kevin King, Supreme Court of Oklahoma, Janine Miller of the Law Society of Upper Canada Great Library, M. Kathleen Price of New York University School of Law and Daniel Rosati of the William S. Hein Co. Unable to attend the meeting were Nicholas Finke, director of the Center for Electronic Text in the Law, University of Cincinnati, AALL Executive Director Roger Parent and Marc Wolfe, National Archives and Records Administration.

Judy Meadows (left), state law librarian of Montana; Claire Germain, professor of law at Cornell University; and Law Librarian of Congress Rubens Medina.

Copyright Office Issues Report

The Copyright Office has released a report titled "Project Looking Forward — Sketching the Future of Copyright in a Networked World." The report, commissioned from Professor I. Trotter Hardy, is part of a continuing effort by the Copyright Office to examine the future of the Internet and related digital communications technologies, and to identify the legal and policy issues that might arise as a result.

The Internet and other digital technologies raise new issues for copyright law because they permit new ways of creating, using and duplicating works of authorship. The report describes three "patterns" that arise as copyright law confronts changing technology: new subject matter, new uses and decentralized infringement. The report finds that decentralized infringement — where copies can be made cheaply and distributed widely by individuals, as is possible on the Internet — presents the most significant challenge today for copyright law's accommodation of new technologies. In spite of these challenges, the report concludes that copyright law has had a long history of adapting to technological advances, and that the possibilities of digital exploitation will not render copyright law obsolete.

The report presents a thorough explanation of the Internet as it works today and describes how it will likely evolve. It then examines the legal issues raised by some of the features of digital technologies, such as Web posting, caching and RAM copying. Besides these issues, which are widely recognized and discussed today, the report also addresses less commonly discussed issues. The report describes as "tomorrow's issues" such topics as non-public posting, protection of factual information on Web sites, Internet broadcasting, computer-gener-

continued on page 257

'The Novelist-Philosopher of Cairo'

Menahem Milson Discusses Najib Mahfuz

BY JOHN MARTIN

The man who is widely credited with having created the modern Egyptian novel was the subject of a Sept. 10 lecture at the Library.

The work of Najib Mahfuz, Egypt's foremost writer and novelist, was discussed by Menahem Milson, professor of Arabic language and literature at Hebrew University.

The prolific Najib Mahfuz (b. 1911) received the Nobel Prize for literature in 1988. He published his first short story in 1932 and has since produced more than 50 volumes of novels, short stories and plays. Mr. Milson explores Mahfuz's aesthetic, including his wedding of classical, literary Arabic to the modern narrative form, in his new book, *Najib Mahfuz: The Novelist-Philosopher of Cairo* (St. Martin's Press, 1998).

Menahem Milson earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University. From 1991 until 1997, he held the post of Hebrew University's dean of the Faculty of Humanities. He has been engaged in research at the Library of Congress since March and is working on a lexicographic study of modern literary Arabic associated with the production of an Arabic-Hebrew dictionary. Fluent in Arabic, he served as the official interpreter assigned to the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat during his historic visit to Jerusalem in 1977.

John Green

Najib Mahfuz at his favorite table at the Ali Baba Cafe in Cairo.

On the publication of Mahfuz's now famous Cairene trilogy in 1956-57, Mr. Milson wrote, "Arab critics felt confident that Arabic literature had finally produced its Dickens, its Balzac, its Dostoevsky." The books tell the story of a middle-class Cairene family from 1917 to 1944. The trilogy reflects paradoxes and themes that run throughout Mahfuz's work. One such theme is locality. For Mahfuz, said Mr. Milson, "Cairo is the universe." The Cairo of Mahfuz, however, like the world of other great writers, is an invention of the author. Mahfuz writes about life in the *hara*, or neighborhood, for example, but avoids colloquial Egyptian in favor of literary Arabic.

Famous publicly, Mahfuz remains almost unknown privately, preferring to work behind the mask of the author. Yet this lack of familiarity is no barrier to understanding Mahfuz's literary ethic, says Mr. Milson, which is primarily philological. During a 1980 interview, recounted in Mr. Milson's book, Mahfuz describes his effort to match language to art:

"The most difficult battle in which I was engaged was my struggle with language. When I began I regarded the [Arabic] language as consisting of sacred molds which had to be invariably applied to all subjects. ... When I started to write realistic novels, I came up against reality. I found myself subconsciously engaged in a struggle: How could I develop this classical language so that it would fit the subject."

Mahfuz's genius rests in his reconciliation of literary Arabic with his convincing and empathetic portrayals of the denizens of modern Cairo. He reveals himself through his calculated use of language, especially in the use of names, which, said Milson, are rich in allusion and symbolism. The father of one of the families in the Cairene trilogy, for instance, is named al-Sayyid Ahmad Abd al-Jawad. The term *al-sayyid*, Mr. Milson explained, is a standard form of address meaning "Mr." But, as used by Mahfuz, the term seems to be an integral part of the father's name. Some characters even address the father as *Si al-Sayyid*, or, "Mr. Sir." The father character dominates his family in the story; his overbearing name thus may reflect Mahfuz's personal rejection of the patriarchal order.

The author's own name, "Najib Mahfuz," said Mr. Milson, is the given and surname of the doctor, a famous obstetrician, who delivered him. As such, it is both a secret and a lie: it tells the story of his origin, and misleads about his parentage.

Mahfuz's controversial political views also set his work apart from many other modern Arab writers. He favors the Arab-Israeli peace process and opposed the pan-Arabism championed by Egypt's former president, Gamal Abdel Nasser. His literary circle, explained Mr. Milson, determined that Arabic (a language Egyptians share with all Arabs) and Islam (the religion they share with all Muslims) should not be the twin determinants of Egyptian national identity.

The lecture was co-sponsored by the Office of Scholarly Programs and the Library's African and Middle Eastern Division.

Mr. Martin is in the Copyright Office.

Copyright

continued from page 256

ated works, and metered use of information.

I. Trotter Hardy is a Professor of Law at the College of William and Mary School of Law. He specializes in intellectual property law as it relates to copyright, computers and other technologies, and has written numerous articles on these issues.

The report is available on the Web site of the U.S. Copyright Office at www.loc.gov/copyright/ under the heading "What's New." Copies of the report also are available for purchase for $23 through the Government Printing Office at (202) 512-1800. Please refer to stock number 030-002-00191-8.

News from the Center for the Book

International Book and Reading Project Update

Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole spoke at the World Bank on Sept. 8 during the official U.S. celebration of International Literacy Day. Cosponsored by the International Reading Association (IRA), UNESCO and the World Bank, the program featured the announcement of the 1998 IRA Literacy Award of $15,000 to the Directorate of Literacy and Promotion of National Languages in Chad.

Four other UNESCO International Literacy Prizes of $15,000 were presented that day, each being awarded to a different national government organization in recognition of its effective contribution to the fight against illiteracy. The other winners were the El Abbrojo Institute for People's Education in Uruguay; Egypt's General Authority for Literacy and Adult Education; Group permanent de lutte contre l'illetrisme, a French interministerial body; and Bangladesh's Primary and Mass Education Division.

■ **Reading and Literacy Promotion Programs Held at 1998 IFLA Conference.** The Section on Reading of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), chaired by John Cole, sponsored two programs in Amsterdam during IFLA's 64th annual conference.

On Aug. 17, three speakers discussed "Book and Reading Promotion in the Low Countries." Marieke Sandersten Holte, director of Stichting Lezen (The Dutch Platform for Promotion of Reading), presented an overview of the government-supported organization she heads; Henk Kriama, director of Stichting CPNB, talked about bringing publishers, book sellers and readers together; and Margreet Ruardi, director of Stichting Schrijvers School Samenleving, explained how her organization brings writers and schools together on behalf of reading and literacy. According to the speakers, reading promotion has a high priority throughout the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. The audience also heard from reading and library advocates from Namibia, Mexico, Poland, Malaysia, Finland and Thailand.

An all-day workshop on Aug. 20 was devoted to "Literacy and Reading Services to Cultural and Linguistic Minorities." The workshop featured six presentations that combined research findings and descriptions of successful projects, a panel of experts who work with minority language groups and poster presentations of literacy and reading programs. Topics included "Expanding the Literacy of Linguistic Minorities"; "Electronic Publishing and Minority Languages: The Contribution to Reading"; "Provision and Promotion of Minority Language Reading Material for Children and Young People: A Case Study from Wales"; "Professionalism in Reading Development Is the Condition for Success"; and "A Two-Way Bilingual Immersion Program in Texas." The speakers and program moderators were from the United States, Wales, Slovenia, Canada, Norway, Senegal, Nicaragua and Australia. The Section on Reading is preparing a publication based on the papers and discussion.

Participants in the two Reading Section standing committee meetings, held Aug. 15 and Aug. 21, were from Canada, Israel, France, Norway, Poland, Russia, Mexico, Greece, Croatia and Botswana. Two of the section's major goals are to promote reading development and to encour-

John Y. Cole

A new IRA poster (above), "Literacy Takes You Places," was introduced on International Literacy Day; IFLA workshop panelists Antoinette Correa of Senegal, Ivar Haug of Norway and Carlos Aleman Ocampo of Nicaragua.

age research about reading, literacy and the library environment. For information about the section's activities, visit its site on the World Wide Web at: www.ifla.org. For information about membership, contact Charlotta Brynger, IFLA Membership Officer, P.O Box 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands; fax: 31-70-3834827; e-mail: charlotta.brynger@ifla.org, or section secretary Adele M. Fasick, e-mail: amfasick@crl.com.

■ **Papers from 1996 "Libraries and Reading" Conference in Russia Published.** On June 19-21, 1996, the IFLA Section on Reading and the IFLA Round Table on Library History jointly sponsored an international conference in Vologda, Russia, on "Libraries and Reading in Times of Cultural Change." More than 20 prominent Russian and American scholars — sociologists, historians, specialists in literature and library studies — participated in the meeting, which was funded by the Russian Ministry of Culture, the Russian State Library and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. The papers focused on the historical role of libraries and reading in the United States and Russia, particularly in the context of social and political change in both countries. The nine American contributors included Librarian of Congress James H. Billington ("American Public Libraries in the Information Age: Constant Purpose in Changing Times"), Marianna Tax Choldin, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign ("Russian Libraries and Readers After the Ice Age"), and Donald G. Davis Jr., University of Texas at Austin ("Wars in American Libraries: Ideological Battles in the Selection of Materials").

The English-language version of the papers, edited by Round Table chair Pamela Spence Richards, were published this year as the January 1998 issue of the journal *Libraries & Culture*.

Titled "The History of Reading and Libraries in the United States and Russia," the issue is available to individuals for $9 and to institutions for $17 from: Libraries & Culture, University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819. Orders should be accompanied by a check payable to the University of Texas Press. The Russian-language version, edited by conference co-organizer Valeria Stelmakh of the Russian State Library, will be available later this year.

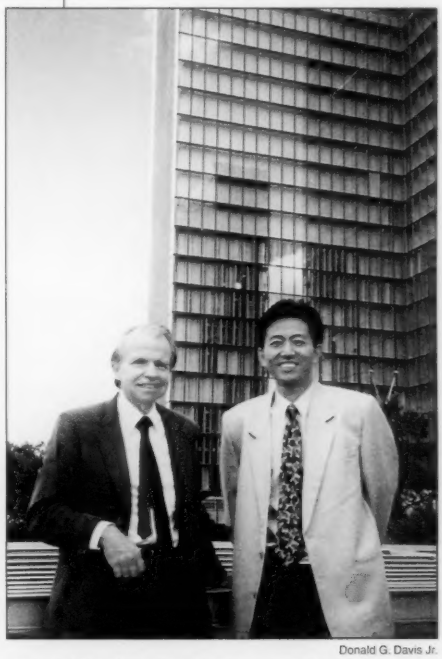
■ **Conference on New-Media Technologies Slated for England in 1999.** The Center for the Book is one of the organizational sponsors of "Creativity and Consumption: New Media Arts in Advanced Technology Culture," an international conference that will be held March 29-31, 1999, at the University of Luton in England.

Papers at the conference will explore theoretical issues concerning the content and use of digital technology to promote a "critical understanding of new-media products and the context in which they circulate." For information, contact Alexis Weedon, Creativity and Consumption Conference, University of Luton, 75 Castle Street, Luton, Beds LUI 3AJ England UK; e-mail: creativity@luton.ac.uk.

The Center for the Book's mission is to use the resources and influence of the Library of Congress to stimulate public interest in books, reading and libraries — nationally and internationally. For background about the center's international activities and role, see the LC *Information Bulletin*, February 1998.

■ **Conference on Books and Reading in the Cold War Held in Paris.** The IFLA Round Table on Reading and the French National Library School, in cooperation with the IFLA Section on Reading, sponsored an international conference in Paris on June 11-12 on "Books, Libraries, Reading and Publishing in the Cold War." This meeting, which featured 22 papers dealing with the effects of the Cold War on the international book and library community, attracted book, library and literary historians from several countries. Censorship, intellectual freedom, library collection development, the "freedom to read" movement, and literary publishing were major topics. Papers specifically addressed developments within the United States, Russia, China, Germany, Finland, francophone Africa, Czechoslovakia, France, Romania and IFLA itself. Conference organizers were Pamela Spence Richards, Rutgers University, and Martine Poulain, French National Library School. John Y. Cole represented the IFLA Section on Reading and served as moderator for one of the conference sessions.

The program included visits to the Bibliothèque Nationale and the American Library in Paris. Papers presented at the conference will be published at a later date. Information about the publication will be available on the Center for the Book's Web site at lcweb.loc.gov/loc/cfbook.



Donald G. Davis Jr.

"Cold War" conference participants John Cole and Cheng Huanwen of Zhongshan University, Guangzhou, China, in front of the new Bibliothèque Nationale de France building in Paris on June 10.

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